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Rec'd: FEBRUARY 12, 1959  
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Info

FROM: BERLIN

RMR

TO: Secretary of State

SS

NO: 686, FEBRUARY 12, 2 PM.

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AIR

SENT DEPARTMENT 686, REPEATED INFORMATION BONN 617, LONDON  
126, PARIS 159, MOSCOW 208, USAREUR 210.

USAREUR FOR POLAD

PARIS FOR EMBASSY, USRO, CINCEUR THURSTON &amp; WEST

REFERENCE: DEPTTEL 1227, TO MOSCOW

FROM BRUCE

IN MAKING PROPOSAL CONTAINED USBER'S 673 TO DEPT, POLADS HAD  
IN MIND ORAL DISCUSSIONS WITH SOV MFA IN WHICH ALLIED EMBASSIES  
WOULD PUT FORWARD THE VARIOUS JUSTIFICATIONS OF OUR POSITION  
IN PIECEMEAL FASHION WITH A VIEW TO HAVING DISCUSSION DRAG  
ON FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.

I AGREE, AS DOES USBER, WITH MOSCOW'S 1588 TO DEPT THAT NOTE  
PROPOSED DEPTTEL 1227 TO MOSCOW LIKELY TO LEAD TO CATEGORICAL  
REJECTION BY SOVS OF ALLIED POSITION ON INSPECTION, IN WHICH  
CASE NOTE WOULD HAVE SERVED NO RPT NO PURPOSE AND COURT OF LAST  
RESORT WOULD HAVE BEEN PREMATURELY CONVOKED.

NOTE PROPOSED DEPTTEL 1227 TO MOSCOW SHOULD, IN OUR OPINION,  
NOT BE SENT NOW, BUT COULD BE HELD IN RESERVE FOR CONSIDERATION  
LATER IF ANOTHER U.S. CONVOY IS HELD AND MEANS OF REMEDY AT  
BERLIN LEVEL ARE EXHAUSTED.

WE HAVE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS ON TEXT NOTE CONTAINED REFTEL

1. INSERT FOLLOWING BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND SENTENCE  
3RD PARA.:

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Authority

NND 877418

By

BG

NARA Date

12/7/89

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-2- 686, FEBRUARY 12, 2 PM., FROM BERLIN

3RD PARA.:

"VERIFICATION OF U.S. VEHICLES TO DETERMINE THAT THEY ARE PROPERLY DOCUMENTED, AND THAT THE COMMANDING GENERAL'S AUTHENTICATION CORRECTLY CORRESPONDS TO THE FACTS STATED IN THE DOCUMENTATION, IS A MATTER OF INTERNAL U.S. ARMY DISCIPLINE. THE U.S. ARMY OFFICERS STATIONED AT THE U.S. CHECKPOINTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR VERIFYING, ON BEHALF OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF, U.S. ARMY EUROPE, AND OF THE U.S. COMMANDER BERLIN, THAT CARGO AND PERSONNEL ARE AS INDICATED IN THE DOCUMENTS."

2. WE AGREE WITH MOSCOW'S 1588 TO DEPT. THAT LAST PARA OF NOTE SHOULD BE AMENDED TO ELIMINATE REQUEST FOR POSITIVE SOV CONFIRMATION OF OUR POSITION. WE SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING WORDING:

"THE GOVERNMENT OF THE U.S.A. HAVING FULLY CLARIFIED ITS POSITION ON THIS MATTER, TRUSTS THAT THE SOV GOVT WILL TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO PREVENT FURTHER INCIDENTS WITH RESPECT TO OUR TRAFFIC ON THE AUTOBAHN."

3. BELIEVE PREFERABLE OMIT FINAL SENTENCE FOURTH PARA RE JUNE 29, 1945 AGREEMENT. SO FAR AS WE AWARE, THIS AGREEMENT WAS ORAL ONLY AND NO WRITTEN RECORD EXISTS EXCEPT GENERAL CLAY'S REPORT OF MEETING WITH ZHUKOV.

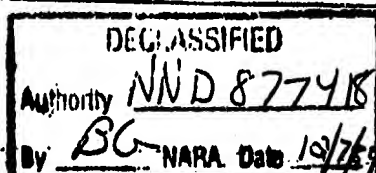
FYI. SOVS, IN DISCUSSING INSPECTION ISSUE IN BERLIN, HAVE REITERATED THAT IN JUNE 29, 1945 AGREEMENT GENERALS CLAY AND WEEKS AGREED THAT SOVS WOULD HAVE RIGHT TO "CONTROL" AUTOBAHN.

U.S. REPRESENTATIVES HAVE COUNTERED THIS BY QUOTING FOL EXTRACT FROM U.S. REPORT OF JUNE 29, 1945 MEETING:

"GENERAL CLAY ASKED FOR UNLIMITED ACCESS TO ROADS AND MARSHAL ZHUKOV STATED HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND JUST WHAT THE BRITISH AND AMERICANS DESIRED. IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR VEHICLES TO BE GOVERNED BY RUSSIAN ROAD SIGNS, MILITARY POLICE, DOCUMENT CHECKING, BUT NO INSPECTION OF CARGO - THE SOVIETS ARE NOT INTERESTED IN

WHAT IS

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-3- 686, FEBRUARY 12, 2 PM., FROM BERLIN

WHAT IS BEING HAULED, HOW MUCH, OR HOW MANY TRUCKS ARE MOVING.  
THIS WAS AGREEABLE TO ALL 3 POWERS REPRESENTED."

SOVS IN BERLIN HAVE NOT DENIED THAT ZHUKOV MADE THESE STATEMENTS;  
THEIR REJOINDER IS THAT GENERAL CLAY AGREED TO "CONTROL,"  
"CONTROL" MEANS INSPECTION, AND THAT IT IS NOT RPT NOT PERTINENT  
THAT SOVS ONLY LAST YEAR COMMENCED TO TRY TO IMPLEMENT THIS  
PHASE OF "CONTROL."

GUFLER

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Authority	NND 877418
By	BG NARA Date 10/25/99